

REMARKS

With this Amendment, claim 21 is amended as is page 17 of the specification.
Withdrawn claims 26-37 have been canceled, without prejudice, for filing in a divisional application.

Claims 1-25 are pending. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is requested.

Allowed Claims

The allowance of claims 1-20 is gratefully acknowledged.

Amended Claim 21, Generally

The application provides support for a generally planar torsion spring. For example, the embodiment of FIGS. 13(a)-(c) illustrates such a spring. In addition, torsion spring 67 is described in the specification as including "a substantially flat front surface 135 and a substantially flat back surface 137" at page 17. Therefore, the amendment is fully supported by the drawings and specification.

This amendment clarifies the configuration of the torsion spring present in the lancing device, and further distinguishes the device from prior art references, such as the Rabenau reference (cited in the Office Action dated May 22, 2007).

Specification

The specification was objected to for failing to provide proper antecedent bases for the claimed subject matter. Claim 21 has been amended to recite: "a generally planar torsion spring coupled to said lancet, said torsion spring comprising a flat front surface, a flat back surface, ..." Support for "a flat front surface" and "a flat back surface" is found, for example, on page 17, last paragraph. The specification has been amended to recite that "torsion spring 67 is generally planar". Support for a generally planar torsion spring is found, for example, in FIG. 13(a).

Withdrawal of this objection is requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

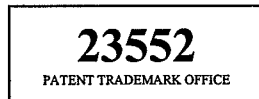
Claims 21-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 21 has been amended to recite: "a generally planar torsion spring coupled to said lancet, said torsion spring comprising a flat front surface, a flat back surface, ..." Support for a "generally planar torsion spring" is found, for example, in FIG. 13(a), in the application as it was filed. Support for "a flat front surface" and "a flat back surface" is found, for example, on page 17, last paragraph, of the application as it was filed.

Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number, if the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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